

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 24-56 were pending in the application and were rejected in the Official Action dated January 12, 2009. The rejection was a final rejection

Applicants filed an amendment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.116 on February 12, 2009 requesting that claims 24, 25, 28, 29, 38, 39, 47, 50-52, 55 and 56 be amended and that claims 26, 27, 36, 37, 49 and 54 be canceled.

In the Advisory Action dated March 20, 2009, the claims were not allowed but the Office indicated that the Amendment dated February 12, 2009 would be entered, and that upon entry of that amendment:

Claims 24, 25, 28-35, 38-48, 50-53, 55 and 56 are in the application;

Claims 47, 48, 50-53, 55 and 56 are objected to; and

Claims 24, 25, 28-35 and 38-46 are rejected.

By way of this amendment pursuant to 37 CFR 1.116, Applicants request that claims 24 and 25 as pending upon entry of the amendment dated February 12, 2009 be further amended, and that claims 28-35, 38-45, 47 and 52 be canceled.

Upon entry of the amendment dated February 12, 2009 and this amendment, claims 24, 25, 46, 48, 50, 51, 53, 55 and 56 will be pending.

Summary of the Amendment

Claim 24 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 47, which has been canceled as redundant in view of the amendment to claim 24.

Claim 25 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 52, which has been canceled as redundant in view of the amendment to claim 25.

Claims 28-35 and 38-45 are canceled without prejudice to their inclusion in a continuation application.

The Advisory Action dated March 20, 2009 indicates that upon entry of the amendment dated February 12, 2009, the rejection of claims 47, 48, 50-53, 55 and 56 has been overcome.

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The claims as amended are restricted to subject matter set forth in claims 47, 48, 50-53, 55 and 56 with the exception that claim 46 is also pending as it now includes the limitation of claim 52 in view of the amendment of claim 25.

Applicants strongly disagree with the Office with respect to the continued rejection of the subject matter of claims 24, 25, 28-35 and 38-46 as pending upon entry of the amendment dated February 12, 2009. However, to advance prosecution and facilitate allowance of the subject matter now claimed, Applicants have amended the claims so that the claims are limited to the subject matter objected to in the Advisory Action and claim 46, whose scope is limited consistent with the objected to subject matter.

Conclusion

The amendment places the claims in condition for allowance and does not raise new issues. Upon entry of this amendment and the amendment previously filed on February 12, 2009, claims 24, 25, 46, 48, 50, 51, 53, 55 and 56 will be in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that the amendment be entered and that a notice of allowance be earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies of fees and credit of any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-0436.

Respectfully submitted,

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